

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SCOTT FETZNER,

Plaintiff,

v.

TOWN OF GATES, et al.,

Defendants.

SCHEDULING ORDER

23-CV-6229DGL

Pursuant to the order of the Hon. David G. Larimer, United States District Judge, referring the above case to the undersigned for pretrial procedures and the entry of a scheduling order as provided in Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 16(b) and Local Rule 16, and a conference having been held on October 19, 2023 with counsel relative to the matter, it is ORDERED that:

1. This case has been referred automatically to the Court's Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR") program. The ADR Plan and related forms and information are available at www.nywd.uscourts.gov and the Court Clerk's Office.

- (a) No later than **November 13, 2023**, the parties shall confer and select a mediator, confirm the mediator's availability, ensure that the mediator does not have a conflict with any of the parties in the case, identify a date and time for the initial mediation session, and file a stipulation confirming their selection on the form provided by the Court. If the parties fail to so stipulate, the Court shall appoint an ADR neutral.

- (b) Any motions to opt out of the ADR process shall be filed **December 8, 2023.**
- (c) The initial mediation session shall be held no later than **February 9, 2024.**
- (d) The referral to mediation shall terminate on **April 12, 2024.** In the event that settlement is not reached, the case will progress toward trial, as scheduled below.
- (e) The referral of this case to mediation will not delay or defer other dates contained in this Scheduling Order and has no effect on the progress of the case toward trial.

2. All mandatory disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(1) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure shall be completed on or before **December 8, 2023.**

3. All motions to join other parties and to amend the pleadings shall be filed on or before **April 12, 2024.** Any third party action shall be commenced on or before **April 12, 2024.**

4. A **telephone status conference** will be held with the undersigned on **May 21, 2024, at 11:40 a.m.,** to discuss the status of the case and the possibility of settlement. **Dial-in instructions will be emailed to counsel prior to the conference.**

5. All factual discovery in this case, including depositions, shall be completed on or before **June 7, 2024.** All motions to compel discovery shall be filed at least thirty (30) days prior to the factual discovery cutoff.

6. Plaintiff shall identify any expert witnesses pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(A) and provide reports pursuant to Rule 26(a)(2)(B) and/or disclosures pursuant to Rule 26(a)(2)(C) by **July 26, 2024**. Defendants shall identify any expert witnesses and provide reports pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 by **August 30, 2024**. Parties shall complete all discovery relating to experts, including depositions, by **September 30, 2024**.

7. Dispositive motions, if any, shall be filed no later than **November 15, 2024**. Unless a consent to proceed before this Court has been filed, such motions shall be made returnable before Judge Larimer.

8. A trial date status conference pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 16(e) and Local Rule 16 will be held, if necessary, at a date and time to be determined by the trial judge after determination of dispositive motions. If no dispositive motions are filed, counsel shall **immediately** contact the trial judge so that a trial date status conference can be scheduled.

At least seven (7) days prior to the trial date status conference, the parties shall file a joint case status report setting forth the information described below. If the parties disagree as to the information to be provided, the report must set forth their different responses. The joint status report shall contain:

- (1) Nature of the Case: Set forth a brief description of the action, identifying the parties, all counsel of record, the relief requested, any affirmative defenses and any relationship the case may have to other pending actions.

- (2) Motion Practice: Are any motions, dispositive or non-dispositive, pending? If so, briefly describe the motion. Explain if additional motion practice is necessary before the matter is ready to be tried.
- (3) Settlement: Describe the status of settlement negotiations. If the parties believe a court supervised settlement/mediation conference would be of assistance in resolving the case or narrowing disputed issues, please state.
- (4) Trial: State whether the case is ready for trial. If not, explain why. Set forth an estimate of how long the trial will take and whether the case is jury or non-jury.

No extension of the above cutoff dates will be granted except upon written application, made prior to the cutoff date, showing good cause for the extension. Application for extensions should be made to the Magistrate Judge. Joint or unopposed requests to extend the deadlines set forth in this order need not be made by formal motion, but rather may be sought in a letter to the court. Letter requests must detail good cause for the extension and propose new deadlines.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Marian W. Payson
MARIAN W. PAYSON
United States Magistrate Judge

Dated: Rochester, New York
October 19, 2023